

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 09936 01 OF 02 301503Z

47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

AID-05 /081 W

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R 301144Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4892

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BANGKOK 9936

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN

SUBJ: SPEECH AND PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE LEADER OF THE DRV DELEGATION UPON DEPARTING BANGKOK

REF: FBIS BK 291403 MAY 75

PHAN HIEN, DRV VICE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GAVE A PREPARED SPEECH AT THE AIRPORT BEFORE DEPARTING BANGKOK MAY 29. FOLLOWING IS AN OFFICIAL TEXT WHICH WAS DISTRIBUTED TO NEWSMEN AT THE AIRPORT.

BEGIN TEXT:

"DESIROUS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THAILAND, WE HAD COME AND HELD TALKS WITH THE DELEGATION OF THAILAND HEADED BY H.E. MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHATICHAI CHOONHAVAN, FROM MAY 22 TO MAY 29, 1975.

WE HAD ALSO THE OCCASION TO MEET H.E. KUKRIT PRAMOJ, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND.

DURING OUR STAY IN BEAUTIFUL THAILAND, WE VISITED THE CAPITAL BANGKOK, A NUMBER OF LOCALITIES AND HISTORICAL SITES. EVERYWHERE, WE WERE CORDIALLY WELCOMED BY THE THAI PEOPLE; WE SAW THEIR HOSPITALITY AND THEIR FRIENDLY FEELINGS TOWARDS THE VIET-
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 09936 01 OF 02 301503Z

NAMESE PEOPLE. THE LAND AND PEOPLE OF THAILAND PRESENT MANY

SIMILARITIES TO THE LAND AND PEOPLE OF VIET NAM LIKE THE VIET-NAMESE, THE THAIS ARE HARD WORKING AND INGENIOUS; THEY LOVE PEACE, ARE DEEPLY ATTACHED TO THEIR FATHERLAND, AND WISH TO ESTABLISH GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER. NOW, OUR TWO PEOPLES HAVE BETTER CONDITIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THEIR AGE OLD RELATIONS.

TODAY, BEFORE LEAVING BANGKOK, ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS MY DEEP SYMPATHY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE THAI PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT FOR THE THOUGHTFUL RECEPTION EXTENDED TO US.

THE TALKS BETWEEN THE DELEGATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE DELEGATION OF THAILAND PROCEEDED IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRANKNESS. THE TWO PARTIES AGREED ON MANY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. YET THERE ARE STILL A FEW OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS THAT NEED FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. TO THIS END, THE DELEGATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM HAS INVITED A DELEGATION OF THAILAND TO HANOI IN THE COMING PERIOD. THE TALKS HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED COMPLETE RESULTS BUT THEY CONTRIBUTED TO THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THAILAND, AND STRENGTHENED THE SOLIARITY AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE AND THE THAI PEOPLES, IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, AND NEUTRALITY OF THE NATIONS OF THIS REGION.

FINALLY, THE DELEGATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM WOULD LIKE TO SEND AFFECTIONATE GREETINGS TO ALL VIETNAMESE NATIONALS IN THAILAND, TO THANK THEM ALL FOR THEIR MESSAGES OF WELCOME AND CONGRATULATION: PARTICULARLY TO THANK OUR FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN IN BANGKOK FOR HAVING TAKEN CARE OF US. AFTER OUR PEOPLE'S EXTREMELY GREAT VICTORY, VIETNAM, FROM NORTH TO SOUTH, HAS BECOME TOTALLY INDEPENDENT AND FREE. PRESIDENT TON DUC THANG, THE PARTY, AND THE GOVERNMENT EXPECT THAT ALL VIETNAMESE NATIONALS SHOULD CLOSELY UNITE, HELP ONE ANOTHER, WORK HARD, LIVE PEACEFULLY WITH THE THAI PEOPLE, AND RESPECT THE CUSTOMS, HABITS, AND THE LAW OF THAILAND TO BE WORTHY OF THE CITIZENS OF HEROIC HIS VIET NAM." END TEXT

2. FOLLOWING HIS SPEECH, PHAN HIEN HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE AIRPORT. FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS OF HIS REMARKS ON THE DRV DELEGATION VISIT TO BANGKOK.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 09936 01 OF 02 301503Z

BEGIN TEXT:

QUESTION: MAY I ASK ONE QUESTION, YOU SAID A FEW OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS REMAIN TO BE SOLVED; COULD YOU MENTION ONE OR TWO?

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 09936 02 OF 02 301513Z

47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

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R 301144Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4893

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 BANGKOK 9936

ANSWER: SO SINCE THERE ARE THESE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS THAT NEED
FURTHER DISCUSSION, THAT IS WHY THE TWO PARTIES HAVE AGREED
NOT TO REVEAL THESE PROBLEMS.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN SOLVED DURING THE
TALKS?

ANSWER: BUT SINCE THE TALKS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED AS YET,
ALTHOUGH WE HAVE AGREED ON VERY IMPORTANT MATTERS IT IS INCOMPLETE.
WE HAVE AGREED WITH EACH OTHER NOT TO REVEAL THESE PROBLEMS TO
YOU. BUT ALL THESE PROBLEMS ARE AIMED AT NORMALIZING RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THAILAND AND
EVENTUALLY TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES.

QUESTION: HOW LONG DO YOU SAY IT WILL TAKE FOR NEGOTIATION BEFORE
WE CAN ESTABLISH RELATIONS?

ANSWER: WE HAVE MADE A BIG STEP FORWARD. SO THERE ARE ONLY A
FEW OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. AS I TOLD YOU WHEN I CAME HERE, WE CAME
HERE WITH SERIOUS INTENT AND GOODWILL AND I ALSO SAID THAT IF THE
THAI GOVERNMENT ADOPTS THE SAME ATTITUDE, THEN WE CAN SETTLE
OUR QUESTION. NOW THERE ARE ONLY A FEW POINTS LEFT, AND THEREFORE
I AM CONVINCED THAT WITH SERIOUS INTENT AND GOODWILL OF BOTH
SIDES IT WILL NOT TAKE A VERY LONG TIME TO SETTLE ALL THE
MATTERS. WELL SEE, AS I HAVE STATED IN MY PREPARED STATEMENT,
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 09936 02 OF 02 301513Z

WE HAVE INVITED THE DELEGATION OF THAILAND TO HANOI, AND THE THAI SIDE HAD ACCEPTED THE INVITATION AND THE FORTHCOMING MEETING; PLEASE WAIT FOR THE FORTHCOMING MEETING.

QUESTION: EXCUSE ME WILL YOU WELCOME THAI NEWSMEN TO HANOI?

ANSWER: ALL THE FRIENDS WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME TO OUR COUNTRY WITH GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP, THEY ARE WELCOME TO OUR COUNTRY. NO OTHER QUESTIONS? THANK YOU.

QUESTION: UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR WHEN THE AMERICAN TROOPS ARE COMPLETELY WITHDRAWN, IS THAT WHY THE TALKS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED?

ANSWER: YES, THIS IS THE FIRST CONTACT WE HAVE WITH THAI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. AS H.E. THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHATICHAI CHOONHAVAN SAID WE HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FOR OVER 30 YEARS. DURING THESE 30 YEARS, OUR RELATIONS WERE NOT VERY..... THEREFORE DURING OUR FIRST MEETINGS WE HAVE MANY THINGS TO TELL EACH OTHER. SINCE THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO BE TALKED ABOUT AND TO BE TALKED FRANKLY AND THEREFORE WE NEED SOME TIME. FOR THE TIME BEING I CANNOT TELL YOU WHAT ARE THE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS, BECAUSE THE TWO PARTIES HAVE AGREED NOT TO REVEAL THESE PROBLEMS, AS THESE ISSUES WILL BE DISCUSSED, FURTHER DISCUSSED. AS TO THE US TROOPS AND US MILITARY BASES, THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT, REGARDING WITHDRAWAL OF THE US BASES. YOU MUST BE WELL AWARE, BETTER THAN I AM. WE CALL ON THE US BASES.... AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THIS OUR CONSISTENT POSITION IS THAT US FORCES SHOULD BE COMPLETELY WITHDRAWN FROM VIET NAM, FROM INDOCHINA, FROM THE WHOLE AREA, BECAUSE US IMPERIALISM HAS CAUSED MANY AGGRESSION WARS IN THIS AREA, SUFFERING TO THE PEOPLE. THEREFORE WE HAVE TO REMOVE THIS SOURCE OF SUFFERING. OUR STAND ON THIS SUBJECT IS CLEAR. I ANSWERED MY FRIEND'S QUESTIONS, BUT AS TO WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED ON, WHAT HAS NOT BEEN AGREED ON, I CAN'T REVEAL THAT, BUT WE HAVE AGREED ON MANY FOREIGN ISSUES AND CLEARLY PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. AND GRADUALLY WE WILL MAKE NEW PROGRESS. WE HAVE MADE CONSTANT WISHES TO SEE BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THAILAND PEACE, FRIENDSHIP, SOLIDARITY. AND SINCE PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WE ARE MORE AND MORE FRIENDS.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 09936 02 OF 02 301513Z

QUESTION: JUST THE LAST QUESTION PLEASE, CAN WE HOPE THE NORMALIZATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES CAN BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING TAKES PLACE?

ANSWER: WE HAVE INVITED THE DELEGATION OF THAILAND TO VISIT

HANOI BUT WE HAVE NOT FIXED YET THE TIME. BUT IT IS OUR DESIRE THAT THE THAI DELEGATION WILL VISIT US SOON, BUT THE SPECIFIC TIME DEPENDS ON THE PROGRAM OF OUR THAI FRIENDS. AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A TIME FACTOR, A TIME LIMIT. ACTUALLY, THERE ARE THREE MONTHS LEFT. FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE TO SEE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES NORMALIZED, THREE MONTHS IS A LONG WAY. BUT FOR THOSE WHO SEE THERE ARE MANY COMPLICATED, COMPLEX PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED THESE THREE MONTHS ARE TOO SHORT A PERIOD. BUT WE DO WISH NORMALIZATION BECAUSE IT IS IN OUR COMMON INTERESTS. THAILAND... AND VIETNAM.

QUESTION: WE CAN TRY TO DO IT WITHIN THREE MONTHS?

ANSWER: WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAILAND'S ROLE IN THE INDOCHINA WAR?

ANSWER: IT IS PAST EVENTS. LET BYGONES BE BYGONES. WE ARE TALKING NOW ABOUT THE NORMALIZATION OF OUR RELATIONS. THAT IS, WE ARE LOOKING AT THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE.

3. REF IS THE TEXT OF THE MAY 29 JOINT RTG-DRV COMMUNIQUE ON THE DRV DELEGATION VISIT TO THAILAND.
WHITEHOUSE

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